



Application No. 09/171,049  
Response Dated April 4, 2003  
Reply to Final Office Action Mailed November 19, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231 on April 9, 2003

Edward J. Milbrada 40,090  
Attorney/Agent Name Reg. No.

Edward J. Milbrada  
Signature of Attorney/Agent

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/171,049  
Applicant : EBRAHIM REZAI ET AL.  
Filed : October 12, 1998  
Title : ABSORBENT MATERIALS HAVING  
IMPROVED STRUCTURAL  
STABILITY IN DRY AND WET  
STATES AND MAKING  
METHODS THEREFOR  
Group Art Unit : 1771  
Examiner : C. Pratt  
Docket No. : JA-138  
Confirmation No. : 7592

**Response to Final Office Action November 19, 2002**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 19, 2002, please the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.